According to the Act Nr. XLVI of 1993 on statistics the statistical data collections involving obligation to supply data - with the exception of those ordered by law - shall be included in the annual national statistical data collection programme (hereinafter referred to as "programme") of the official statistical service.

The programme has been issued by a Government Decree (Government Decree 288/2009. (XII. 15.)) and is amended each year according to the changes in the data collections.

The Government Decree defines the personal scope of the Programme, and declares that

- Legal persons
- Organisations without legal personality
- Private entrepreneurs
- Small scale agricultural producers
- Natural persons engaged in non-profit business activity concerning this activity

are obliged to provide data for statistical purposes.

The Government Decree does not contain the questionnaires, instead it states that they have to be prepared and published each year by the 15. of December.

In case of the data collections marked as such in the Government Decree, the data has to be provided through the online data collecting application (Elektra) operated by the HCSO.

The data collections as well as data transmissions from administrative sources are listed in the annexes of the Government Decree, where the collection of each member of the official statistical service are listed in a separate annex.

The annexes define for each data collection the following:

- registration number
- title
- type (data collection or transmission)
- frequency
- scope of data providers
- deadline
- relevant European legal act
- data categories

The draft programme is compiled by the HCSO based on the proposals of the members of the official statistical service.

The HCSO submits the draft programme, to the National Statistical Council to request its opinion.

After having obtained the opinion of the NSC, the HCSO submits the draft to the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice, which – after having consulted the other ministries and relevant organisations - submits it to the Government for approval.

The Government Decree is published in the Official Journal of Hungary.